

Parks, Forestry & Recreation  
Brenda Patterson, General Manager

Parks, Forestry & Recreation  
24th Floor, 55 John Street  
M5V 3C6

Garth Armour  
Coordinator  
Natural Environment  
Parks, Forestry & Recreation

**DATE:** 10 September, 2009

**TO:** Cooper, Nicole  
UDS - Municipal Licensing and Standards

**FROM:** Garth Armour, Coordinator – Natural Environment  
Parks, Forestry and Recreation

**RE:** **Natural Gardens Inspection**  
**Location:** 78 Dagmar Avenue

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The above noted - property was inspected by Patricia Landry of my section for potential natural garden status which is covered by Chapter 489 of the Municipal Code:

**Grass & Weeds – Article 2 A. – Height Restriction, which states: “The owner or occupant of private land shall cut the grass and weeds on their land and remove the cuttings whenever the growth of grass and weeds exceeds 20 centimetres in height.”**

The ‘natural garden’ exemption ( **Article 2 B.**) reads as follows:

**For the purposes of this section, the term “grass and weeds” shall refer to:**

- 1. All noxious weeds and local weeds designated under the *Weed Control Act*; and**
- 2. Any other vegetation growth which does not form part of a natural garden that has been deliberately implemented to produce ground cover, including one or more species of wildflowers, shrubs, perennials, grasses, or combinations of them, whether native or non-native, consistent with a managed and natural landscape, other than regularly mown grass.**

Our findings are as follows:

We found this garden to be within the provisions of the natural garden exemption. In order to continue to be in compliance with the natural garden exemption, a garden must be consistent with a **“managed and natural landscape”**.

**Findings:**

1. A mix of trees, shrubs and native and non-native herbaceous perennials. Plants include: Peonies, Asters, Coneflower, Pearly everlastings, Woodland Sunflowers, edible herbs and vegetables, Solomon’s Seal, Thistle (away from fenceline).
1. On-going weed removal and proper pruning of shrub material when required is recommended in order to remain in compliance with the requirement to be ‘managed’.

Garth Armour  
Coordinator, Natural Environment  
Parks, Forestry and Recreation  
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